

29TH INTERNATIONAL SAXOPHONE SYMPOSIUM

JANUARY 6 & 7, 2006
George Mason University, Center for the Arts,
4400 University Dr., Fairfax, Va.
FRIDAY, JANUARY 6
CENTER FOR THE ARTS CONCERT HALL
8:00 p.m. Concert – U.S. Navy Band with soloists
SATURDAY, JANUARY 7
CENTER FOR THE ARTS, MAIN LOBBY
9:00 a.m. – 4 p.m. Central Information
7:15 p.m. – Community Saxophone Choir

PERFORMING ARTS BUILDING, BAND ROOM, A327C
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Instrument Company and Vendor Displays
CENTER FOR THE ARTS CONCERT HALL
8:00 p.m. Concert – “Commodores” jazz ensemble with guest artist

The schedule of events has outgrown our newsletter format. The complete schedule is available on line at www.navyband.navy.mil and on site in the program that features information on every event.

CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE



Sea Chanters sing the National Anthem to open a Music in the Schools performance at Rockledge Elementary School in Maryland.
-U.S. Navy Photo by MU1 Shana Catandella

ceremonies and honors at Arlington National Cemetery. On a lighter note, the ceremonial unit will march in Alexandria's St. Patrick's Day Parade.

For our patrons who reside outside the Washington metropolitan area, we have different opportunities to share our music through national tours and our latest compact disc recordings. New England is the destination for the Sea Chanters (starting in February) and the Navy Band (in March). The Country

Current and the Commodores tour the far West and central Midwest in the fall. The Commodores' latest CD, *Three Shades of Blue* features many of thier own original compositions. Samples are

available on the Navy Band's website at www.navyband.navy.mil. *Light Cavalry Overture and other WARHORSES*, the Captain's latest recording with the Navy Band, brings back the “good old days” of transcriptions, as popular today as they were when the Band came into being 80 years ago! Still in production is the Sea Chanters' *Homeward Bound*. All Navy Band compact disc recordings are made available to the public through local libraries. If yours does not offer our

material, have them request a complete set, on letterhead, at the following address.

U.S. Navy Band
Public Affairs Office
617 Warrington Ave., S.E.
Washington Navy Yard, D.C.
20374-5054

Your United States Navy Band was “home” for the holidays on the historic Washington Navy Yard. In fact, one of our first rehearsals in the renovated spaces was for the Christmas Pageant of Peace and 82nd Lighting of the National Christmas Tree. Be sure to read the article about this star-studded event in this issue. The building's rededication is tentatively scheduled for late April, 2006. Stay tuned for further details about this and other opportunities to keep your resolutions to hear “the World's Finest” play for you! *ff*

fanfare

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

The United States Navy Band
617 Warrington Ave., S.E.
Washington Navy Yard, D.C. 20374-5054

Official Business

PRESORTED
FIRST-CLASS MAIL
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Washington, D.C.
PERMIT NO. 6184



fanfare

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2006 • VOLUME 27 • NUMBER 1

Happy New Year 2006!

Captain Ralph M. Gambone and the men and women of the United States Navy Band wish you all the best in this New Year that marks the 50th anniversary of the “Sea Chanters” chorus. Remember, it's never too late to make that New Year's resolution to hear more wonderful Navy Band music.

Our year gets underway with the 29th International Saxophone Symposium at George Mason University. Please note the earlier start time of 4 p.m. on Friday, January 6, 2006. The Navy Band's

other education-oriented traditions continue with Music in the Schools and the sixth annual High School Concerto Competition (the winner performs with the Navy Band in May).

The entire family is welcome at the evening concerts throughout the school year in our “Beltway Series.” We return to the National Mall for our Summer Concert Series (at the U.S. Capitol/Mondays and U.S. Navy Memorial/Tuesdays) as well as the Navy Birthday Concert (in October) and Holiday Concerts at

DAR Constitution Hall. In addition to the traditional Memorial Day and Labor Day concerts, summer 2006 features the biannual Alumni Reunion the first weekend in August. Special events will welcome past Sea Chanters as part of their 50th Anniversary celebrations. The Sea Chanters gala concert will be held at the University of Maryland's Clarice Smith Center on Saturday, April 8, 2006, after a day of master classes and clinics. Be sure to “read all about it” in your next newsletter. Throughout the year, we perform

Continued on back panel

Christmas Pageant of Peace and 82nd Lighting of the National Christmas Tree

Wednesday, November 30, 2005 - Navy Band hosted rehearsals for the Christmas Pageant of Peace and 82nd Lighting of the National Christmas Tree in the newly renovated spaces at the Washington Navy Yard. Special guests began to arrive at 8:30 a.m. when VOENA, a talented youth choir from Napa, California, enchanted all with their beautiful voices and charming personalities. As the day progressed, more guests arrived: poet Maya Angelou, Broadway luminaries Dale Kristien (*Phantom of the Opera*) and Brad Oscar (*The Producers*), bluegrass stars Ricky Skaggs and the White Family, football Hall-of-Fame defensive lineman Merlin Olsen and gospel

recording artist CeCe Winans. Captain Ralph M. Gambone worked closely with the directors and civilian talent to ensure a fine



performance for the next day's ceremony. The Navy Band spent Thursday at the Ellipse rehearsing and staying warm in tents. At 4:30 p.m., the performance began with



(above) President and Mrs. George W. Bush enjoy a performance by Dale Kristien, accompanied by Musician First Class Kenneth C. Carr.
(left) Captain Ralph M. Gambone leads VOENA in rehearsal in the Historic Sail Loft on the Washington Navy Yard.
-U.S. Navy photos by MU1 Stephen Hassay

President and Mrs. Bush looking on. Despite the cold, the Navy Band performed flawlessly for the 2,500 in attendance and for those watching and listening over C-Span television and radio. *ff*

Performance Calendar

The U.S. Navy Band and specialty groups present the following FREE concerts. Tickets or reservations are not required unless noted (*). For more information call (202) 433-2525.

JANUARY NAVY BAND

SATURDAY, JANUARY 14, 8 PM.*
Sudbrook Arts Centre
4300 Bedford Road at Alter St.
Pikesville, Md.
* For FREE tickets mail a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: C/O Winter Concert
203 Sudbrook Lane
Pikesville, Md. 21208

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 7:30 PM
“Symphonic Celebrations I”
Bishop Ireton High School
Garwood Whaley Auditorium
201 Cambridge Road
Alexandria, Va.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 28, 7 PM
Patuxent High School
12485 Rousby Hall Road
Lusby, Md.

SEA CHANTERS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 8 PM.*
U.S. Naval Academy Chapel
Blake Road
Annapolis, Md.
* with the U.S. Naval Academy Band

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22, 3 PM.*
Cathedral of Mary our Queen
5200 N. Charles St.
Baltimore, Md.
* with the U.S. Naval Academy Band

FEBRUARY NAVY BAND

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 7:30 PM
Thomas Stone High School
3785 Leonardtown Road
Waldorf, Md.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 8:15 PM
Towson University
Center for the Arts
Cross Campus Drive between York Road and Osler Drive
Towson, Md.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 8 PM
Grace E. Metz Middle School
9950 Wellington Road
Manassas, Va.

COUNTRY CURRENT

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 7:30 PM.*
Forest Park High School
15721 Spriggs Road
Woodbridge, Va.
* joint concert with the Forest Park High School Band

CHAMBER GROUPS

SAXOPHONE QUARTET
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1:30 PM.
White House Visitor Center
1450 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1:30 PM.
White House Visitor Center
1450 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

LOOKING AHEAD TO MARCH

CEREMONIAL BAND

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 12:30 PM.
“ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE”
Old Town Alexandria
King and West Sts.
Alexandria, Va.

CHAMBER GROUPS

“HARBOR WINDS” CLARINET QUARTET
SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 1:30 PM.
White House Visitor Center
1450 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

SEA CHANTERS 2006 SPRING TOUR

The Sea Chanters chorus departs February 21 on a 16-day tour through New Jersey, Pennsylvania, New York, Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island. The following is a list of tour performances.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 7:30 PM.
Presbyterian Church of Toms River
Toms River, N.J.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 8 PM.
Ocean City Music Pier
Ocean City, N.J.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 7 PM.
Williamsport Area High School
Williamsport, Pa.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 7:30 PM.
Sweet Home High School Auditorium
Amherst, N.Y.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 7 PM.
Columbia-Greene Community College Gymnasium
Greensport, N.Y.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2 PM.
The Palace Theater
Albany, N.Y.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 7 PM.
South Portland Auditorium
South Portland, Maine

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 7 PM.
Kennett High School
Conway, N.H.

THURSDAY, MARCH 2, 7:30 PM.
The Capitol Center for the Arts
Concord, N.H.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 7:30 PM.
Keene High School Auditorium
Keene, N.H.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4, 7 PM.
Wixon Middle School Auditorium
South Dennis, Mass.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 4 PM.
Martha's Vineyard Regional High School
Performing Arts Center
Oak Bluffs, Mass.

MONDAY, MARCH 6, 7:30 PM.
Commerce High School Auditorium
Springfield, Mass.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 7:30 PM.
Southington High School Auditorium
Southington, Conn.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 8 PM.
Roberts Hall Auditorium
Rhode Island College
Providence, R.I.

United States Navy Band • Washington, D.C.
Captain Ralph M. Gambone, USN • Officer in Charge/Leader

All concert information is accurate at time of publication, though subject to change due to weather and other conditions. For concert updates call the 24-hour Navy Band Performance Calendar at (202) 433-2525, or visit us on the web at www.navyband.navy.mil.


CAPTAIN’S MESSAGE

We begin the New Year with a sense of gratitude to be back "home" at the Sail Loft on the historic Washington Navy Yard. This is a milestone in our 80-year history, and one that we treasure. Back in 1918, Admiral Arthur Willard authorized the Navy Yard Band to rehearse in the Sail Loft. As Commandant, Naval District Washington in 2001, Rear Admiral Christopher E. Weaver was instrumental in making this renovation possible. As he toured the new building recently, he said, “This is what we have been striving for. The Navy Band is long overdue for a facility of this caliber.” I am so pleased that the outstanding musicians of your United States Navy Band now have a facility to support their talents.

We concluded 2005 with national tours, the Navy Birthday Concert, the Christmas Pageant of Peace and 82nd Lighting of the National Christmas Tree, and the annual Holiday Concerts and broadcast. I encourage you to read the article on our two highly successful tours. The Commodores and Country Current really outdid themselves. The response from their patrons has inspired us who are about to go “on the road” in a few weeks. You'll find the dates and places for the Sea Chanters' tour in this edition's performance calendar.

This promises to be another year filled with exciting events and wonderful music. We start off with the 29th International Saxophone Symposium that now features events prior to the Friday night concert, so remember to come early! I am proud of the results of several new recording projects. It was a great pleasure for me to conduct the Navy Band in *Light Cavalry Overture and other WARHORSES*, and the Commodores have a new release called *Three Shades of Blue*. The Sea Chanters plan to celebrate their 50th Anniversary with a gala event in April and a new CD. We also look forward to hosting a grand opening of our new incarnation of the Sail Loft. More information will follow on that event in future fanfares.

Thank you for your continued interest in the United States Navy Band. We appreciate your support!


Ralph M. Gambone, Captain, USN
Officer in Charge/Leader



NOTABLE QUOTES

“I just arrived home after spending the finest 85 minutes of country and western music I have ever heard...each of these gentlemen is not only an accomplished musician but also an outstanding Sailor. (They) are all to be commended and are all good, hearty men of the sea.”

Fan from Powell, Wyo.

“We absolutely loved it! Our children range from 8-16 and they cannot quit talking about it...it went by too fast and left us all wanting more.”

Fan from Miles City, Mont..

“This organization (Commodores) is, without a doubt, a collection of some of the absolute finest musicians I have ever heard. And I've heard a few in my lifetime...I have never been prouder to be a Naval veteran than when hearing these musicians perform! The concert was very uplifting...a reaffirming of life...and worthy of any audience in the world....they are a truly wonderful group...and very worthy ambassadors for the Navy. I can think of no more positive spending of ‘tax dollars’ than to fund this wonderful endeavor. Please continue to spread the patriotism, good will and positive outloof of the United States Navy and our military in general with this fine group!”

Fan from Cambridge, Ohio

“Thank you very much for the recordings of the Navy Band. They serve as an inspiration to my students...my kids gain valuable insight into what the composer truly wants from his/her composition.”

Fan from Wilmot, Wis.

FEATURES/CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS

Navy Band Tours the Heartland

The “Country Current” country-bluegrass group and the “Commodores” jazz ensemble have returned from their tours of the Midwest, and it is clear- something special was going on in America’s heartland. The Navy Band has always enjoyed a wonderful relationship with its tour patrons. The rare appearances by our various ensembles in communities outside the Washington area make a tour performance a special occasion. In the past, the Band received handwritten or typewritten letters from people who were enthusiastic enough about the performance to write a complimentary letter. The advent of email has resulted in a dramatic increase in correspondence and offers a window into the experiences of our patrons.



Musician First Class Luis Hernandez demonstrates the workings of a Saxophone after the concert in Stillwater, Minn.
-U.S. Navy Photo by MU1 Stephen Hassay

performance by a super talented group!” The Navy uniforms, patriotic selections and musical tribute to our military services elicited strong responses from audience members: “We were really impressed during the closing of the show, when each branch of the military were asked to stand up. You could actually see tears in some of the faces of the older vets on being recognized.”

“I could feel the pride as our veterans stood, and I felt a personal debt of gratitude to all of them who had served and who are serving today. My father was one of those people who stood and I was honored to be sitting next to him.”

“I left the concert filled with pride for our country and grateful to you and all who serve to protect our freedoms.”

In the hundreds of emails we received, one phrase was used over and over: “I felt proud to be an American!”

This gentleman’s Commodores experience even left him wishing for higher taxes: “I would be glad to pay a tax increase if I knew it would help continue to support organizations like the Commodores.”

Some of the most touching stories were about the experiences of younger audience members. After a Commodores concert this mom wrote:

“I want to extend special thanks to Musician First Class Luis Hernandez. After the performance

he took the time to show my nine-year-old daughter each of the different saxophones and how they were played. She was extremely happy to see and hear so many instruments up close. It reinforced her desire to play the saxophone and to try to play jazz.”

This email came from the grandmother of a 12-year-old girl who asked Country Current drummer, Chief Musician John Ennrich, for his autograph: “Not only did he take the time to talk to her, he asked her if she played the drums and she told him yes, and she hoped that some day she could play like him. He encouraged her to keep practicing, and then he went up onto the stage and returned with a set of snare drum sticks that he had just used and gave them to her! She cried on the way home, she was so happy - and slept with the drum sticks that night.”

Thanks to everyone who took the time to write. Your comments encourage us and provide insights that help us better serve you. We used several innovations to support this tour of the Midwest, from electronic promotional materials to the Commodores tour web log. Your response reminded us how technology can be a wonderful thing, especially if it can be used as a “window to the heart.” ff



Master Chief Musician Wayne C. Taylor greets Country Current fans after the concert in Souix City, Iowa.
-U.S. Navy Photo by MU1 Stephen Hassay

WELCOME ABOARD TO...

Musician First Class Antje Farmer, soprano vocalist with the "Sea Chanters" chorus ... and to **Musician First Class David Miller**, trombone instrumentalist with the Navy Band.

CONGRATULATIONS AND FAREWELL TO...

Senior Chief Machinist's Mate Gerald M. Konkol, Command Senior Chief with the U.S. Ceremonial Guard, who received the Meritorious Service Medal on the occasion of his retirement after 21 years of service. While the Sail Loft was undergoing renovations, the Band shared quarters with the Ceremonial Guard. Senior Chief Konkol's assistance during this time was invaluable. He helped the Band maintain operational readiness and offered his many years of experience to further the careers of several Navy Band members. We wish him a very fond “fair winds and following seas.”

SPOTLIGHT ON...



*The 29th International Sax Symposium opens at the George Mason University on Friday, January 6, 2006, and continues through January 7. Let's meet the symposium's assistant coordinator for this event, **Chief Musician Michael Bayes**, who also serves as the Band's saxophone section leader and as the ceremonial band's assistant drum major.*

Chief Bayes, please tell us about your early years.

Including my identical twin, we were a family of seven from Bowie, Md. Living in the Washington area allowed us to take advantage of the great wealth of talent in the service bands. Their concerts were a popular choice for our family outings. From the Saxophone

Symposium, children's shows and holiday concerts to summer evening performances at the Jefferson Memorial, our family enjoyed Navy Band music. Military music has become a family tradition of service, too. My grandfather was a member of The President's Own - Marine Band as a trombone instrumentalist from 1927-1954. My wife Christina, a flutist, serves with me in the Navy Band.

Would you share with us your role as the Band's saxophone section leader?

It is my job to ensure the readiness of the section in the concert/ceremonial division. This consists of maintaining the section's work schedule and making sure that personnel are available and ready for duties. Ensuring equitability and fairness while recognizing outstanding service is also a very important aspect of my position.

What can you tell us about the upcoming 29th International Sax Symposium?

Started by now retired Master Chief Musician Dale Underwood, the event has evolved into one of the Navy Band's largest community outreach programs featuring guest artists from around the world. We return to George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., on January 6 and 7. Friday begins with afternoon clinics starting at 4 p.m. and closes with a concert band performance featuring Kenneth Tse, Vincent David and Senior Chief Timothy E. Roberts. Saturday promises to be a full day with educational and performance clinics, the College Quartet Series, vendors' exhibition booths and closes in the evening with a performance by the "Commodores" jazz ensemble. This year's featured performer is noted jazz saxophonist Bruce Johnstone. You do not have to be a saxophone player to enjoy such great music and discussions - there really is something for everyone! Musicians, educators and music lovers will have a great time at the symposium. All of the events are free and open to the public. Please check the new symposium link on the Navy Band website for up to date scheduling and biographical information.

Chief, what activities do you enjoy during your free time?

From working with Play-Doh to building Cinderella's Castle with Legos, I try to spend the bulk of my free time with my wife and young daughter. Cooking and experimenting with recipes is a new hobby of mine as well as woodworking. And finally, I enjoy training for and participating in triathlons.

THE UNITED STATES NAVY BAND HAS OPENINGS FOR HIGHLY QUALIFIED AND EXPERIENCED INSTRUMENTALISTS AND VOCALISTS.

CONCERT/CEREMONIALBAND

Trumpet

January 9, 2006

SEA CHANTERS CHORUS

Bass vocalist

By Appointment

STAFF

Sound Support Engineer

February 6-8, 2006

For more information call: Master Chief Musician Stuart McLean, Audition Supervisor at (202) 433-2840. Or email: navyband.auditions@navy.mil.

Visit us on the web at www.navyband.navy.mil

Contact Information

Public Affairs Office
The United States Navy Band
617 Warrington Ave., S.E.
Washington Navy Yard, D.C. 20374-5054

(202) 433-2525
navyband.public.affairs@navy.mil